

ordinary scenes that make up the day-to-day Washington tableau.

While his photographs of the capital's loftier sites still warm the walls of the Capitol Hill Club's Grill Room—and a picture he took of the Capitol holiday tree once graced the cover of the National Republican Club's magazine—it was the quotidian that particularly intrigued him.

"He was always a photographer . . . and a lot of [his subjects] were the out-of-the-way places that most people probably never realized existed. We whiz by these things as we are driving or walking, but we don't stop to take a look," said Sen. Kyl.

"I just came across an album as we were looking through his things—a very large album of all Washington, D.C., photos and most of them, probably 80 or 90 percent, were street scenes: street people, storefronts with a lot of graffiti on them, or just a park bench right after a snowstorm," Kyl added.

While his father initially advised him against running for Congress, Sen. Kyl credited the lessons learned at the feet of the elder Kyl with his own political success. For example, the former public school teacher insisted his son be equipped to operate effectively in the public arena.

"He got some of my friends and me together when we were in high school . . . and he said, 'You all need to learn to do public speaking, so I'll teach you what I can here.'"

"My father was [also] a kind of frustrated farmer. We always lived in town but we always leased land and we always had livestock. He was really proud when I showed the grand champion steer at the county fair," the Senator recalled fondly.

The elder Kyl—who lost his first bid for Congress in 1958 but won a special election for a seat in 1959—went on to serve five additional terms, though not consecutively.

While in Congress, Kyl devoted himself to his work on the Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, which included significant contributions to the genesis of the Lewis and Clark trail project, the younger Kyl said.

"He always stressed to me his ability to work on a bipartisan basis. . . . He was proud that Wayne Aspinall [then Democratic chairman of the Interior and Insular Affairs Committee] would turn the gavel over to him or turn a bill over to him to manage on the floor as if it were not a partisan matter."

After losing his 1964 re-election bid, Kyl came back to triumph in 1966, then won seats in the two succeeding Congresses and served as a deputy to then-Minority Leader Gerald Ford (R-Mich.).

However, in 1972, redistricting forced him to run in a more Democratic district, and he was bested in a Member-versus-Member Contest by Rep. Neal Smith (D-Iowa).

"If he was defeated, he understood," noted Kyl. "It wasn't the end of his life."

Soon after, the Nixon administration tapped Kyl as assistant secretary for Congressional and legislative affairs at the Interior Department, where he served from 1973 to 1977.

In 1977, he joined the Occidental International Corporation as executive vice president, a post he held until retiring to Phoenix, Ariz., in 1985.

Shortly thereafter, he had the pleasure of seeing his son, now the junior Senator from Arizona, win a seat in the House of Representatives.

"There aren't many father-son combinations from different states. Most of the father-son combinations are from the same state," Kyl noted.

In addition to his Senator son, Kyl is survived by his wife Arlene, two daughters, one sister, one brother, six grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

# PAYING TRIBUTE TO: DURANGO-LA PLATA EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS CENTRAL DISPATCH

## HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 8, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to recognize the Durango-La Plata Emergency Communications Central Dispatch for their service and dedication during one of Colorado's most formidable fire seasons. Last summer, the Central Dispatch played an integral role in containing the Missionary Ridge forest fire that burned over 70,000 acres in Southwestern Colorado. Today, I would like to pay tribute to their heroic efforts before this body of Congress and this nation.

When the Missionary Ridge fire first erupted last June, the citizens of Durango, Bayfield and the surrounding communities, the Durango-La Plata Central Dispatch worked to protect the homes and lives of their loved ones and community members from what would become the worst fire in area history. The fire began in a ditch beside Missionary Ridge Road, just 15 miles northeast of Durango, and grew to consume more than 70,000 acres, 56 residences, and 27 out-buildings.

Although the Missionary Ridge fire was a devastating reminder of how destructive forest fires can be, it also served to remind us of the men and women who dedicate their lives to protecting their fellow citizens on a daily basis. The Durango-La Plata Central Dispatch has roots reaching back to 1976, when it consolidated the dispatch communications for area agencies. Others have looked to Durango-La Plata Central Dispatch as a model for combining dispatch functions. Today, its 17 employees and technicians routinely handle 11,000 calls and 6,000 fire, medical, and law enforcement incidents per month. During the Missionary Ridge Fire, several organizations stepped up and volunteered to help manage the 60% increase in calls. Throughout the 22 days of the fire, the Colorado Mountain Rangers, Search and Rescue, Civil Air Patrol, and concerned citizens voluntarily manned the Emergency Operations Command, as well as the Fire Information Line. The Durango-La Plata Central Dispatch's guidance and coordination helped manage over 5000 donated man-hours, handling an estimated 35,000 to 50,000 fire related calls. The expertise and leadership from the Durango-La Plata Central Dispatch illustrate the dedication and readiness with which these men and women serve the citizens of Durango.

Mr. Speaker, it is with sincere admiration that I recognize the Durango-La Plata Central Dispatch before this body of Congress and this nation. I want to commend all of the Durango-La Plata Central Dispatch's personnel for their determination, courage, and resolve during last summer's efforts on Missionary Ridge. Without the help of the Durango-La Plata Central Dispatch and others, the added devastation to our community, environment, and quality of life would have been unimaginable. Their tireless commitment throughout the summer's exhaustive fire season has served as an inspiration to us all and it is an

honor to represent such an outstanding group of Americans in this Congress.

## IN RECOGNITION OF ALBERTO CARDENAS

## HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 8, 2003

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of my friend, Mr. Alberto Cardenas of Miami, for his 10 years of diligent service to the Republican Party of Florida and the people of our great state as party chairman and vice chairman. Al has served with distinction over the last four years in his role as state chairman. During his tenure, Chairman Cardenas shepherded the Republican Party of Florida to a historic level.

Following the 1998 election of Governor Jeb Bush, Al was elected unanimously by his peers, men and women, black and white; to lead our party. As Governor Bush began his agenda of reforming state government, Chairman Cardenas undertook the vision of changing the perception of Florida Republicans. Chairman Cardenas quickly made diversity a major focus of his first year. Establishing both Hispanic and African-American outreach programs, Al ushered the Party into uncharted territory. His message of inclusion spread throughout Florida as Republican ranks began to soar. Al's message of inclusion was carried out with the formation of the Florida Black Republican Council, the Florida National Hispanic Assembly, and the chartering of the Broward Log Cabin Club. For his efforts, Republican National Chairman, Governor Jim Gilmore selected Al to serve on the RNC Executive Committee. A post which gave Al the opportunity to promote Republican diversity throughout the nation. Recently, Governor Bush appointed Al to the Board of Trustees of Florida A&M in Tallahassee.

Along with an aggressive vision of inclusion, Al campaigned tirelessly throughout Florida urging elected officials, both state and local, to join the Republican Party. Since 1999, numerous elected officials have switched party affiliation to Republican.

Mr. Speaker, later this month Al leaves his post and returns to Miami. Another chapter in a storied personal journey that began at the young age of 13 with his leaving Communist Cuba in 1961, at the height of the U.S.-Cuba conflict, and ends leading the largest state Republican Party in the nation. State Republican history will look back favorably on his service which saw a number of firsts: the first Republican governor to be re-elected; the first elected Republican Attorney General; the first elected Republican Agriculture Commissioner; and the first elected Republican Chief Financial Officer, and increased seats in the Florida House of Representatives and Florida Senate, as well as, the largest number of Florida members of Congress ever.

Mr. Speaker, I join my fellow Republicans in thanking our friend, Chairman Al Cardenas for his friendship, service and support. I wish, Al, Diana and the entire Cardenas family best of health in the coming year.